

those that are not supposed to have a gun, and this goes back to the 1968 Gun Control Act, the bill follows it, the NRA has supported this bill. We have good bipartisan support certainly in the other body and I am hoping that before the session ends that we can bring this bill up.

H.R. 1415, the NICS Improvement Act, will give grants to the States so they are able to be able to bring their systems up to par so here in Washington we will have the information that we need. You know, again, I hope that in time that we will be able to change the debate on gun violence in this country. We can save lives. We can save certainly on health care costs for this Nation if we can have a good honest debate on the health care system with the gun system.

YOU ONLY PASS THIS WAY ONCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. POE). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, tonight I rise to pay tribute to a very, very special American, a very good friend of mine who died last week after battling a very cruel and mean disease, ALS, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, better known as Lou Gehrig's disease.

Wayne Arnold was a friend of mine and he was a friend of many. In fact, I remember when I first got involved in politics Wayne Arnold was one of my first supporters, and I will always be grateful for that.

But Wayne was a very special American in so many ways. I would like to say that he was a believer. He was a doer and he was a giver. He was involved in so many things in the Rochester area. He was an accountant. By the time he retired he was a partner in one of the largest firms in Minnesota.

He was active in the Chamber of Commerce. He was active in his church. He was active in education issues. But he was not just active. He got things done.

I think perhaps one of the greatest tributes to Wayne Arnold in the Rochester area is what he did in helping to really spearhead the building of a memorial there to all of the soldiers and all of those who have contributed so much, and we have this marvelous memorial which is largely because of people like Wayne Arnold. When he heard about this, that we were going to build this special memorial at Soldiers Field in Rochester, Minnesota he not only got behind it, he became the treasurer. He helped raise the money. He did so much on that and so many other fronts.

I also want to submit for the RECORD and I want to thank Greg Sellnow of the Rochester Post Bulletin, and I would like to submit for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a copy of a piece that he wrote last week about Wayne Arnold, and the title of which was the

philosophy that Wayne Arnold lived by. The title is "You Only Pass This Way Once." And he sort of branded that philosophy on all of his children and many of the people that he knew and worked with. And in it I think he meant that you only get an opportunity to do the right thing every so often, and you have got to take advantage of those opportunities to do the right thing.

I talked to Wayne shortly after he learned that he had ALS and he was not sad. He was not morbid. He was not angry. He saw it as a challenge. In fact, in the article that Greg Sellnow has written about him, he said that he had sent him an e-mail a couple of years ago. And in that e-mail Wayne Arnold said to Greg, I look at this disease as a gift, he wrote in an e-mail about 2 years ago, not many people have the luxury to be able to prepare like this.

Wayne Arnold was a very special person. He did so much for our community. He did so much for us. He did so much for me.

I would like to close by just saying that I have no doubt that Wayne was greeted at the gate with those words, "Well done, oh, good and noble servant."

[From the Post Bulletin, Jul. 16, 2005]

YOU ONLY PASS THIS WAY ONCE

(By Greg Sellnow)

Wayne Arnold had a motto. "You only pass this way once," he told his five children and 12 grandchildren over and over again.

It was a didactic, life-guiding philosophy that had so much resonance in Wayne's family that one of his grandsons had it tattooed on his back.

"What he meant was that you'll only be in a certain situation or a place in your life once," Wayne's son Mike told me the other day. "And you should try to leave it a better place or a better person. It was the same way he felt about his community."

Wayne, who died Tuesday at the age of 70, lived that motto. His family, his community and many of the hundreds of lives he touched have all been bettered by his presence among us.

I first met Wayne in August 2003 after he sent me an e-mail about the upcoming Walk to Defeat ALS. On the day I talked to him at his northwest Rochester home, he'd had a busy morning. He'd sent out 44 e-mails to friends, relatives, former customers and acquaintances asking them to participate or donate to the annual fundraiser.

Wayne had been diagnosed with ALS, commonly known as Lou Gehrig's disease, about six months earlier, and he'd made fundraising for the Minnesota Chapter of the ALS Association the newest beneficiary of his seemingly unending energy and passion.

At the time, I remember trying to put myself in Wayne's place. I tried to imagine what I'd do if I'd been diagnosed with a fatal illness that usually claims its victims within three years of diagnosis. I figured that maybe I'd travel, visit some of the places I'd wanted to see, spend time with my family and enjoy the rest of my life as best I could.

But I couldn't really imagine myself doing what Wayne was doing—sitting in front of a computer or at the phone for hours and hours raising money for a cause—a cure for ALS—he knew couldn't help him.

It all made sense for Wayne, though. It fit perfectly with his life's philosophy.

"I look at this disease as a gift," he wrote me in an e-mail two years ago. "Not many

people have the luxury to be able to prepare like this."

Wayne helped raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for the state ALS group, and he recruited others to get involved. They include his son Mike, who is the organization's treasurer.

I don't pretend to know what it means to be an ideal citizen. But I have to think Wayne came pretty close. He was one of the most committed, involved people I've met during my time in Rochester. He met his wife, Donna, when both were students at Lourdes High School, and after they married the couple decided to stay in their hometown. They remained deeply committed to Lourdes and Rochester for the next half century.

After serving a stint in the U.S. Coast Guard, Wayne became an accountant, retiring as a partner in the firm of McGladrey & Pullen in 1996. By then, he'd served on the boards of more than a dozen community, business and church organizations. He was recognized by the Jaycees as one of the 10 Outstanding Young Men of Minnesota. He served as president of the Rochester Area Chamber of Commerce. He was a founding committee member and secretary treasurer of the Soldiers Field Veterans Memorial. The list goes on and on.

"I can't get enough of it," Wayne told me the last time we talked, in September 2004. "I've got to be doing something."

Through it all, though, Wayne set aside plenty of time for his family. Just three weeks ago, he traveled to Montana to attend the wedding of his godson.

"You only pass this way once." What a powerful motto around which to base one's life.

And death. Wayne donated his brain and spinal cord for research into a cure for ALS.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. POE). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take my special order at this time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

APOLOGIES FOR IRAQ AND KARL ROVE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, a few weeks ago I gave a speech about the importance of apologizing for doing something wrong, one of the first lessons that we are taught as children actually. Our capacity for saying I am sorry is part of what makes us a functioning and civilized society.

Here in Washington, every time a Democrat uses strong rhetoric to condemn the politics or the policies of the Bush administration there is a relentless pressure from the Republicans for